

TITLE 81 - JAIL STANDARDS BOARD

CHAPTER 6 - STANDARDS FOR JAIL FACILITIES - SECURITY AND CONTROL

001 It is the policy of the State of Nebraska that facility administrators in all jail facilities shall employ policies and procedures that insure the maintenance of proper levels of security and control. Such policies and procedures shall be consistent with the provisions established herein.

002 Supervision of Housing and Custodial Areas. The facility administrator shall be responsible for the proper supervision, accountability, and security of inmates in their assigned housing areas.

002.01 Whenever inmates are held in a jail facility, facility employees shall provide supervision in accordance with Chapter 2, paragraph 003 of these Standards. An official personal count shall be taken and recorded four (4) times daily at the following times:

002.01A Two counts between the hours of 2400 and 1200 hours;

002.01B Two counts between the hours of 1200 and 2400 hours.

There shall be at least a four (4) hour interval between counts.

002.02 Supervision of Isolated Inmates. The assignment of inmates to safety cells, disciplinary isolation, or administrative segregation shall be approved by the facility administrator. If an inmate is placed in isolation, the following general conditions shall apply:

002.02A An isolated inmate shall not be

deprived of normal jail facility clothing, except as is necessary for his protection.

If such deprivation is necessary, provision shall be made to protect his health.

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002.02B Whenever a mentally disordered inmate is placed in isolation, the facility administrator shall comply with the requirements of the Nebraska Mental Health Act.

002.02C The facility administrator shall review the classification status of inmates in safety cells at least every twenty-four (24) hours.

002.02D The facility administrator shall review the classification status of inmates in administrative segregation at least every thirty (30) days.

002.02E No inmate shall be placed in disciplinary isolation for more than fifteen (15) consecutive days or more than thirty (30) days out of any forty-five (45) day period, except in case of violence or attempted violence committed against another person or property when an additional period of isolation for disciplinary reasons is approved by the facility administrator.

003 Facility Security and Control. Facility policies and procedures employed to insure maintenance of security and control shall be consistent with the following provisions:

003.01 All secure perimeter entrances shall be kept locked at all times, except when used for supervised entrance or exit of facility employees, inmates, visitors, or in emergencies.

003.02 All security equipment shall be inspected regularly.

003.02A Facility employees shall carefully inspect cells, cell doors, bars, windows, and doors leading into and out of housing areas daily to insure that all are in proper and safe working order.

003.02B Prior to assignment of an inmate to a housing unit, the facility administrator or proper facility employee shall insure that the unit is properly equipped and that the required equipment is in useable condition.

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003.03 The facility administrator and all facility employees shall maintain a continual vigilance of their assigned area of supervision and maintain an accurate count of inmates in accordance with these Standards. They shall insure that all locks on appropriate hall doors, cell doors, and elsewhere are locked, and that they are aware of the location and condition of particular inmates who are chronic disturbers or have special needs. Facility employees shall take prompt action whenever any problems or disturbance arises.

003.03A No facility employee shall strike or lay hands on inmates except when it is necessary to prevent escape, injury to person or property, quell a disturbance, or in other execution of their duties. Only the amount of physical force necessary to accomplish the above is authorized.

003.03B When two (2) or more inmates engage in a fight, witnessing facility employees, with the necessary help, shall separate the inmates at once, and the senior facility employee shall take such action as is necessary to restore security and order. Such incidents shall be properly documented with the information forwarded to the

facility administrator or other appropriate facility employee for possible disciplinary action or further investigation.

004 Emergency Procedures. The facility administrator shall employ policies and procedures that insure the proper handling of emergency situations such as fire, disturbance, natural disaster, escape, or taking of hostages.

004.01 Specific procedures and orders to be followed in the event of any emergency situation shall be made available to all facility employees. Such procedures shall be reviewed and updated periodically.

004.02 All facility employees shall be trained in the execution of emergency procedures.

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004.03 The facility shall comply with the life safety codes established by the State Fire Marshal. The facility administrator shall maintain documentation of compliance from the State Fire Marshal based on an annual inspection of the facility by their personnel or authorized designee.

005 Supervision of Facility Arsenal, Firearms, and Keys. Facility administrators in all jail facilities shall insure proper supervision of the jail facility arsenal, weapons, and keys.

005.01 Arsenal and Firearms, Chemical Agents and Related Equipment. All firearms, chemical agents, ammunition, and related security equipment shall be stored in a secure but readily accessible depository. Access to the arsenal shall be supervised by designated facility employees.

005.01A All firearms, chemical agents, and related security equipment shall be kept clean and in proper working order, and available for immediate use. Defective equipment shall be tagged and stored separately.

005.01B All firearms, chemical agents, and related security equipment shall be inventoried at regular intervals to determine their condition and expiration date. All equipment shall be catalogued with proper documentation of their issuance and use. The loss or misplacement of any equipment shall be reported immediately to the facility administrator.

005.01C In emergency situations, facility employees on duty shall use only weapons and related security equipment approved by the facility administrator.

005.01D Facility employees authorized to use firearms and related security equipment shall be qualified in the safe and efficient use of firearms, chemical agents and other

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weapons approved for use by the facility administrator. The greatest caution and conservative judgement shall regulate the use of any weapon.

005.02 Supervision of Jail Facility Keys. All jail facility keys not issued to facility employees shall be stored in a secure depository. Keys shall be issued from a central control area by designated facility employees.

005.02A All keys shall be labeled to

correspond with their respective locks. The identifying labels, the number of keys available for each lock, and the location of the respective locks shall be properly recorded. The issuance of keys to facility employees shall also be properly documented. Facility employees should only possess those keys officially issued to them.

005.02B Keys not issued to facility employees should be stored in a manner that permits easy determination of the presence or absence of keys.

005.02C Fire and other emergency keys shall be readily accessible to the central control area to the designated facility employees on duty.

005.02D The loss or misplacement of jail facility keys shall be immediately reported to the facility administrator.

006 Inmate Searches. Facility policies and procedure regarding pat searches, strip searches, and body cavity searches shall be consistent with the following provisions:

006.01 General Search Procedures. Facility employees shall thoroughly search inmates for contraband upon admission and as otherwise necessary to maintain security and control of the facility.

006.01A All searches shall be conducted in a manner which preserves the dignity of the inmate to the greatest extent possible.

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006.01B All searches shall be of the least intrusive type necessary to satisfy the safety and security needs of the facility.

006.01C All strip searches and body cavity searches shall be conducted by facility employees of the same sex as the inmate, except for qualified medical employees acting pursuant to Chapter 6.006.04B. Except in cases of emergency, all pat searches should be conducted by facility employees of the same sex. If an inmate objects to a pat search by an employee of the opposite sex which involves touching the genital or buttocks areas, or the breast area of a female inmate, an employee of the same sex as the inmate must be summoned to conduct the search.

006.01D All strip searches and body cavity searches shall be conducted in an area made private from the observation of persons not physically conducting the search and persons not present to ensure the safety of those persons conducting the search.

006.01E Upon admission, inmates shall also be inspected for body vermin, cuts, bruises, needle scars, or other injuries to the greatest extent possible given the type of search being conducted.

006.02 Pat Searches. Pat searches involve the touching and feeling of the inmate's clothed body to detect contraband.

006.02A The pat search shall be considered the initial method of searching inmates upon admission.

006.02B The pat search shall also be considered the routine method of searching inmates already lodged in the facility. These searches may be conducted at any time needed to maintain security and control.

006.03 Strip Searches. Strip searches involve the removal of all articles of clothing and a visual inspection of the inmate's nude body

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including a visual examination of the outer genital area and inside the mouth, nostrils, and ears.

006.03A Strip searches of inmates upon admission are authorized only upon individualized determination of reasonable suspicion or probable cause as set forth below:

006.03A1 When there is reasonable suspicion that the inmate has on his person contraband, weapons, criminal evidence, or other things concealed which present a threat to the safety and security of the facility;

006.03A2 When there is reasonable suspicion that a strip search is necessary to confirm the presence of a health condition requiring immediate medical treatment; or

006.03A3 When there is probable cause to believe that a strip search is necessary to confirm the presence of other criminal evidence concealed on the inmate's body.

006.03B For the purposes of subparagraph 006.03A1 above, reasonable suspicion shall be deemed present when:

006.03B1 Charges involve a crime of violence as described by Nebraska Revised Statutes Section 28-301 through 324 and 28-329 through 333 or any successor statutes;

006.03B2 Charges involve escape, burglary, or the use of a weapon;

006.03B3 Charges involve the possession of a drug or controlled

substance an/or drug paraphernalia;

006.03B4 Inmate's prior record indicates arrest or conviction for one of the above offenses; or

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006.03B5 The inmate is combative or displays behavior which indicates he is likely to attempt to introduce contraband into the facility.

006.03C Before a strip search can be conducted on an inmate upon admission, best efforts must be made to use less intrusive methods such as pat searches, electronic metal detector or searches of the inmate's clothing.

006.03D Documentation. A written record of any strip search of an inmate upon admission shall be prepared and maintained in the inmate's individual file. This record shall include:

006.03D1 The name and sex of the facility employee conducting the search and each other person present during the search;

006.03D2 The time, date and place of the strip search;

006.03D3 A statement of the results of the search along with a list describing any weapons, contraband, criminal evidence, or health condition discovered during the search; and

006.03D4 A statement of the facts which led jail employees to believe there was reasonable suspicion or probable cause to conduct the strip search.

006.03E Strip searches of inmates while lodged in the facility after initial court appearance may be conducted at such times when there exists reasonable suspicion that contraband has been, or will be, introduced into the facility.

006.04 Body Cavity Searches. Body cavity searches involve the examination and possible intrusion into the rectal or vaginal cavities. No body cavity searches shall be conducted unless there exists probable cause to believe that contraband will be discovered. No body cavity

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search shall be conducted without prior authorization by the administrator or his designee.

006.04A No body cavity search shall be conducted unless a thorough pat search, strip search or search of the inmate's clothing do not satisfy the safety and security needs of the facility.

006.04B Body cavity searches shall be performed under accepted sanitary conditions and only by a qualified medical employee.

006.04C Documentation. A record of the body cavity search shall be prepared and maintained in the inmate's individual file. The record shall include:

006.04C1 A statement of the facts which led jail employees to believe there was probable cause to conduct the body cavity search;

006.04C2 The name and sex of each person conducting or observing the search;

006.04C3 The time, date and place of the search; and

006.04C4 A statement of the results of the search with a list describing the items removed from the inmate as a result of the search.

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